

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
JUNE 8, 2021
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Shawn Talbott Chairman; John Veaser and Jason Somero Selectman
Scott Butcher, Town Administrator
In audience, Lt. Abel, Peter Gowey, Jim Coffey and Alan Doyle

Opened Meeting at 5:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance

Continuation of Police Chief Recruitment discussion: Discussion of how to proceed and candidate options. This discussion went into non public session as noted below.

Non-public session: Motion to go into non 91-A:3 II(a&b) by Selectman Veaser, **second** by Selectman Somero, all in favor.

Return from non-public session: Motion to come out of non-public was made by Selectman Somero, and seconded by Selectman Veaser, all were in favor.

Selectman Veaser made a **motion** to seal the minutes of the non-public session, Selectman Somero **seconded**, all in favor. Decision was made to hire a part time police administrator to fill in for Mary Fortier.

Road Committee discussion to revise 2021 paving plan:

Scott and Peter had a discussion on Collins road and the use of Hubbard Pond Rd by the Annett Timber harvest. Because the road has just a base coat, it was decided that they would delay finishing until the Timber Harvest is over. Collins Road will be left to winter over and be finished next year. This would free up some of the monies to divert to other roads. Some concern regarding the winter over process due to possible wash out was discussed and how to prevent that. Scheduling and staffing was discussed as well.

Emergency Management Director/Deputy Director positions:

After some discussion Selectman Veaser made a **Motion** to appoint Eric Maxwell as Emergency Management Director, and Frederica Kaazo as the Deputy Director. Selectman Somero seconded, all were in favor.

Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement renewal:

Scott, Craig Smeeth met with Comcast and discussed the contract including upgrades. This includes High Definition channel to supplement our Standard Definition channel. Board of Selectmen further discussed franchise fees and how they work. Higher broadband would require installing fiber cables. It was also noted upgrades would allow us to live broadcast meetings. Discussed internet issues in the office as well as the wireless access point along with possible solutions and future improvements.

Selectman Veeseer made a **Motion** to sign the extension so we have until September 18th, 2021 to review the new Comcast franchise contract, Selectman Somero **seconded the motion**, and all were in favor. **Motion** to move the franchise percent to 3% was made by Selectman Veeseer, Seconded by Selectman Somero, all were in favor.

Annett State Forest Timber Harvest:

If they are using Hubbard Pond to any large extent, a bond will need to be drafted up.

OLD NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Reports: Scott needs to get it updated. Scott suggested using the amounts in the annual reports will give everyone a starting point, then subtract the expended amounts until budget is done.

Motion to allow officer Vollheim to roll his time over past July was made by Selectman Veeseer, **seconded** by Selectman Somero. All were in favor.

School budget: unless the state makes a call before July 1st, there will be a significant increase in the school portion of the taxes next year due to the withdrawal of expected funding from the state. Scott to do some cash projections with Carlene.

Cat Loader: still having issues, Scott and Peter had discussion on what to do, repair or replace. It still has value to it so would possibly be a good trade in if a new one was purchased.

Credit Card processing at the transfer station: Peter would prefer underground wire for the internet, as overhead wires would be issue with trucks going through there. Also suggested is something like a Square processor for wireless processing. Open to other solutions as long as they are PCI compliant.

RC Club: Scott needs to hear back from DES, Peter concerned with traffic up there

Information requests from Alan Doyle: Shawn brought up FOI requests and gave them to Scott for review and a timeline of when they will be


Non-public session: **Motion** to go into non 91-A:3 II(a) by Selectman Veeseer, **second** by Selectman Somero, all in favor.

Return from non-public session: Motion to come out of non-public was made by Selectman Somero, and seconded by Selectman Veeseer, all were in favor.

Motion to adjourn was made by Selectman Somero, Selectman Veeseer **seconded**. All were in favor.


Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mallett, Land Admin

**Minutes approved by
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

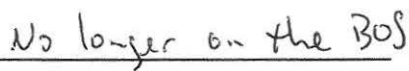


Shawn Talbot, Chairman

7/27/2021



Jason Somero



John Veeseer